

Please amend the following claims:

20. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids -17 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids -16 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (c) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 1 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (d) a polynucleotide encoding the IL-1R AcM polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97666;
 - (e) a polynucleotide encoding the mature IL-1R AcM polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97666; and
 - [(f) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (a),
wherein:
 - (i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and
 - (ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total number of nucleotides in (a);
 - (g) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (b),
wherein:
 - (i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or substitution, or any combination thereof; and
 - (ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total number of nucleotides in (b);

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(h) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (c),
wherein:

(i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or
substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total
number of nucleotides in (c);

(i) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (d),
wherein:

(i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or
substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total
number of nucleotides in (d);

(j) a polynucleotide variant created by altering the polynucleotide of (e),
wherein:

(i) said altering includes a nucleotide insertion, deletion, or
substitution, or any combination thereof; and

(ii) the number of variations is less than or equal to 5% of the total
number of nucleotides in (e);

(k) a polynucleotide comprising a fragment of the coding region of SEQ ID
NO:1, wherein said fragment is at least 750 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1;

(l) a first polynucleotide which hybridizes at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5xSSC,
50 mM sodium phosphate, 5x Denhardt's solutions, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 g/ml denatured,
sheared salmon sperm DNA, to a second polynucleotide having the nucleotide sequence of the

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coding region of SEQ ID NO:1 or the complement thereof; wherein said first polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide which retains substantially the same activity as a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

(m) a polynucleotide encoding an epitope-bearing portion of the IL-1R AcM polypeptide, wherein said epitope-bearing portion is selected from the group consisting of: amino acids 6 to 15 in SEQ ID NO:2; amino acids 57 to 66 in SEQ ID NO:2; amino acids 70 to 79 in SEQ ID NO:2; amino acid 106 to 112 in SEQ ID NO:2; amino acid 115 to 124 in SEQ ID NO:2; and amino acid 129 to 135 in SEQ ID NO:2; and]

[(n)] (f) the complement of (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l) or (m)].

49. An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids -17 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
(b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids -16 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
(c) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids 1 to 339 of SEQ ID NO:2;
(d) a polynucleotide encoding the IL-1R AcM polypeptide having the complete amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97666;

(e) a polynucleotide encoding the mature IL-1R AcM polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 97666; and

[(f) a first polynucleotide which hybridizes at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5xSSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate, 5x Denhardt's solutions, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 g/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA, to a second polynucleotide having the nucleotide sequence of the

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coding region of SEQ ID NO:1 or the complement thereof; wherein said first polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide which retains substantially the same activity as a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2];

[(g)] (f) the complement of (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e)[or (f)].

Please add the following new claims:

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- 66. A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 20.
 - 67. The vector of claim 66, which is a plasmid.
 - 68. The vector of claim 66, which is a baculovirus.
 - 69. A host cell comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 20 operatively associated with a heterologous regulatory sequence.
 - 70. The host cell of claim 69, which is *E. coli*.
 - 71. The host cell of claim 69, which is a COS cell.
 - 72. The host cell of claim 69, which is a CHO cell.
 - 73. A method of producing a protein that comprises culturing the recombinant host cell of claim 69 under conditions such that said protein is expressed, and recovering said protein.--
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Remarks

No new matter has been added by way of this amendment. Following entry of this amendment, claims 20-29, 38, 39, 49-58, 60-73 are pending in the application. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found throughout the specification and original claims. New claims 66-73 are supported by, for example, original claims 6-10.